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REMARKS

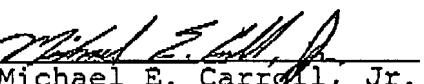
Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-10) on the merits with traverse. Thus, Applicants respectfully request the examination of claims 1-10. The claims of Group II (claims 11-15) have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-10 have been amended to improve readability.

No fees are believed due in connection with this Reply. If any fees are due, please charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, due in connection with this Reply to Deposit Account Number 03-3325.

Allowance of all of the elected claims is believed to be warranted and is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is welcomed to telephone the undersigned to discuss the merits of this patent application.

Respectfully submitted,


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